

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 248450 TOSEC 160031

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DRAFTED BY NEA:HHS SAUNDERS:HE

APPROVED BY P:JJSISCO

S/S- MR. SHANKLE

S - MR. ADAMS

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 248450 TOSEC 160031

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SY, US

SUBJECT: ACTION MEMORANDUM: MESSAGE FROM SECRETARY
KISSINGER TO PRESIDENT ASAD ON MEETING WITH PRESIDENT
FORD (S/S NO.7520869)

FOR SECRETARY FROM SISCO

1. RECOMMEND THAT YOU APPROVE THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM TO
AMBASSADOR MURPHY IN DAMASCUS FROM YOU.

BEGIN TELEGRAM TEXT:

PLEASE CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE FROM ME FOR PRESIDENT ASAD.

BEGIN TEXT OF MESSAGE:

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

PRESIDENT FORD HAS ASKED ME TO THANK YOU FOR YOUR MESSAGE

SECRET

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ON THE SUBJECT OF A POSSIBLE MEETING IN MID-NOVEMBER. WE

VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE SPIRIT AND TONE OF YOUR MESSAGE
BUT ARE SORRY THAT YOU DO NOT FEEL IT IS POSSIBLE TO MEET
NOW. BECAUSE WE REMAIN CONVINCED, AS I HAVE TOLD YOU,
THAT IT IS IMPORTANT TO CONTINUE THE NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN

ISRAEL AND SYRIA, WE BELIEVE SUCH A MEETING COULD HAVE
BEEN USEFUL.

AS A FRIEND, I MUST SAY THAT I AM DISAPPOINTED THAT THIS
MEETING CANNOT TAKE PLACE AT THIS TIME. BECAUSE OF THE
MANY FRANK DISCUSSIONS WE HAVE HAD, I UNDERSTAND YOUR
POINT OF VIEW. HOWEVER, YOU ALSO KNOW FROM OUR TALKS
THAT WE BELIEVE THE STRATEGY WE HAVE BEEN PURSUING IS
THE ONLY WAY THAT OFFERS REALISTIC HOPE OF SUSTAINED
MOVEMENT TOWARD THE GOAL WE ALL SEEK, A JUST PEACE WHICH
TAKES INTO ACCOUNT THE LEGITIMATE INTERESTS OF ALL THE
PEOPLE IN THE MIDDLE EAST, INCLUDING THE PALESTINIANS.
I BELIEVE HISTORY WILL SHOW THAT THE SINAI AGREEMENT
WILL IN THE LONG RUN BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO ALL OF THE
ARABS AND TO THE CAUSE OF A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE
MIDDLE EAST.

I AM GLAD THAT YOU AGREE THAT A MEETING AT SOME POINT
WOULD BE USEFUL, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO STAYING IN CLOSE
TOUCH WITH YOU IN THE EFFORT TO DEVELOP THE NEXT STEPS
IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AND IN HOPES OF BEING ABLE TO FIND
A MUTUALLY AGREEABLE TIME FOR A MEETING BETWEEN YOU AND
PRESIDENT FORD IN THE NOT TOO DISTANT FUTURE. PRESIDENT
FORD WOULD WELCOME THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU, AND
I KNOW THAT SUCH A MEETING WOULD BE CLEARLY IN THE IN-
TERESTS OF MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING.

WARM REGARDS, HENRY A. KISSINGER.

END TEXT OF MESSAGE.

APPROVE DISAPPROVE

INGERSOLL

SECRET

NNN

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